

1 What is claimed is:

2 1. A hub assembly for an umbrella frame comprising:

3 a hub member having a central aperture sized to receive a
4 pole member of the umbrella frame, said hub member being capable
5 of sliding between a bottom end and a top end of the pole
6 member,

7 said hub member having an upper portion and a lower
8 portion,

9 a band secured about a periphery of said hub member between
10 said upper and lower portions,

11 and a plurality of brackets secured to said band and hub
12 member which are structured to pivotally receive an end of a
13 strut member of the umbrella frame.

14 2. A hub assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said hub
15 member further includes a channel formed generally in said upper
16 portion thereof, said channel being defined by at least a lower
17 ledge extending about a periphery of said hub member, and
18 wherein said band is secured to said hub member about said
19 channel.

20 3. A hub assembly as recited in claim 2, wherein said
21 channel has a height dimension that is sized to correspond
22 generally with a height dimension of said brackets.

23 4. A hub assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said hub
24 member includes a waist portion, said waist portion being of
25 smaller diameter than said upper and lower portions.

1 5. A hub assembly for an umbrella frame comprising:

2 a hub member having a central aperture sized to receive a
3 pole member of the umbrella frame, said hub member being capable
4 of sliding between a bottom end and a top end of the pole
5 member,

6 said hub member having an upper portion and a lower
7 portion,

8 said upper and lower portions being separate from one
9 another,

10 said upper and lower portions collectively forming a
11 channel between them in an assembled orientation, said channel
12 being defined by at least one ledge extending about a periphery
13 of said hub member, and

14 a plurality of brackets secured to said hub member for
15 pivotally receiving an end of a strut member of the umbrella
16 frame.

17 6. A hub assembly as recited in claim 5 further comprising
18 a band secured about said channel of said hub member with said
19 brackets secured to said band and hub member.

20 7. A hub assembly for an umbrella frame comprising:

21 a hub member having a central aperture sized to receive a
22 pole member of the umbrella frame, said hub member being capable
23 of sliding between a bottom end and a top end of the pole,

24 said hub member having an upper portion and a lower portion
25 separate from one another,

1 a ring also having a central aperture also sized to receive
2 the pole member of the umbrella frame and capable of sliding
3 between the bottom end and top end of the pole member, said ring
4 including a first exposed, horizontally oriented surface and a
5 second exposed horizontally oriented surface,

6 said upper portion of said hub member being adjacent to
7 said first exposed ring surface and said lower portion of said
8 hub member being adjacent to said second exposed ring surface in
9 an assembled orientation, and

10 said ring including a plurality of brackets structured to
11 pivotally receive an end of a strut member of the umbrella
12 frame.

13 8. A hub assembly as recited in claim 7 wherein said ring
14 is of a solid, one piece construction and said brackets are pre-
15 formed.

16 9. A hub assembly as recited in claim 8 wherein at least
17 some of said pre-formed brackets of said ring have an interior
18 surface with a generally "U" shape.

19 10. A hub assembly as recited in claim 8 wherein at least
20 some of said pre-formed brackets of said ring have an interior
21 surface with a generally "V" shape.

22 11. A hub assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said ring
23 includes at least 8 of said pre-formed brackets.

24 12. An umbrella frame comprising:

25 a pole member having a longitudinal axis, a bottom end

1 and a top end, said pole member also having a retaining pin slot
2 extending therethrough;

3 a main hub member secured about said central pole
4 member, said main hub member capable of sliding between said
5 bottom and said top ends, said main hub member also capable of
6 rotating about the axis of said pole member,

7 said main hub member having an upper portion and a
8 lower portion and a band secured about a periphery thereof
9 between said upper and lower portions,

10 a plurality of brackets secured to said band and hub
11 member to pivotally receive a first end of a strut member of the
12 umbrella frame,

13 a secondary hub member secured to said pole member
14 near said pole top end, said secondary hub member also capable
15 of rotating about said central pole axis,

16 a plurality of rib members pivotally secured to said
17 secondary hub member,

18 a plurality of strut members each having an inner and
19 an outer end, said inner ends being pivotally secured to said
20 main hub member, said outer end of each of said strut members
21 being pivotally secured to a respective one of said rib members,

22 a pin member extendable within said retaining pin slot
23 for maintaining said main hub member in position along said pole
24 member, and

25 means for securing said pin member to said main hub

1 member so as to allow said umbrella frame to rotate
2 freely about said pole member when said pin member is
3 placed within said retaining pin slot.